MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the Government will defer from entering into any final agreement until the legislature has been reconstituted?

PRESIDENT: It is not at all possible to give such an undertaking and Government cannot give that undertaking, because it is just posssible that international considerations might require certain agreements being entered into. But those will have to be kept confidential.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether those negotiations are with other nations?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The President has already stated that, in regard to thorium, no negotiations are being carried on now.

Thorium.

53. *MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Tiruvella*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government have entered into any contract with any foreign company with regard to the thorium deposits in Travancore?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: No.

Ban on newspapers.

54. *MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names of newspapers that are under ban at present in the State; and

(*b*) the reasons for imposing such ban?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR (*Inspector General of Police*):

(*a*) Nil.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to (*a*).

Ban on newspapers.

55. *MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names of newspapers whose entry into or circulation in the State was banned during the last two years with dates of such ban;

(*b*) the reasons for such ban; and

(*c*) the papers in respect of which the bans were lifted and reasons thereof?

MR. S. PARTHASARATHY AIYANGAR: (*a*) A *statement furnishing the information is laid on the table.

(*b*) Publication of prejudicial reports.

(*c*) The ban on the papers mentioned in (*a*) above has been lifted in accordance with the decision of Government to raise all the bans on newspapers and journals.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know the policy of Government underlying the ban on newspapers?

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